EV549907871

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No.: 09/417,990
Filing Date: ....October 13, 1999
Inventors: ....Lovett et al.
Applicant: ....Microsoft Corporation
Group Art Unit: 2178
Examiner: ....Queler
Confirmation No.: 8254
Attorney's Docket No.: MS1-383US
Title: **Methods and Systems for Processing XML Documents**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

To: Commissioner for Patents
        P.O. Box 1450
        Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: Lewis C. Lee (Tel. 509-324-9256 x211; Fax 509-323-8979)
        Customer No. 22801
        Lee & Hayes PLLC
        421 W Riverside Avenue, Suite 500
        Spokane, WA 99201

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated November 24, 2004, for which a three-month shortened statutory period for response is set for February 24, 2004. Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.